

Distinguished Professors — Category I

Christy Cheney, Professor, Student Life Skills, and Jocelyn Morales, Counselor
University Club of Orlando Chair in Humanities

\$5,300

The Uncommon Scholar: REACH Study Abroad 2016 - Italy

The REACH program is a cohort-based learning community at the Osceola Campus designed to support and guide students through their first 21 college credit hours. Students are nominated by their high school counselor, because they demonstrate the work ethic and desire to succeed but require college readiness skills and support to begin their college career. The endowed chair will provide the opportunity for the program's students to experience globalized learning through a study abroad program to Italy in 2016 with an experienced counselor who will offer support and strategies to address personal challenges.

Diane Dalymple, Librarian

Freeda Foreman Chair in Collaborative and Creative Problem-Solving

\$4,600

Testing the Test: Can Project SAILS Assess Valencia College Students' Understanding of Information Literacy?

To find a scalable assessment tool to test the information literacy knowledge of Valencia students, Diane will administer Project SAILS (Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills) in collaboration with East Campus English faculty. Testing is planned for spring 2016 with a random sampling of 460 East Campus ENC 1102 students. SAILS analyzes critical thinking information literacy skills by testing eight skills sets based on standards created by the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Richard Gair, Professor, Reading

Abe and Tess Wise Endowed Chair in the Study of the Shoah

\$4,000

Discovering Fragments of Jewish Life in Poland

Richard will spend 17 days driving through Central and Eastern Poland and will visit Lodz, Chmielnik, Auschwitz, Rzeszow and Lublin. During his travels, he will meet with historians, officials and museum staff and will also tour, study and photograph four Nazi death camps.

Deborah Howard, Professor, Mathematics

Lockheed Martin Chair in Mathematics

\$5,500

Removing Barriers for Success Using Mindset Interventions

Student success in gateway mathematics courses depends as much on attitudes and beliefs as it does on content knowledge. Deborah will implement social-psychological interventions to empower students to overcome barriers to math.

Brian Macon, Professor, Mathematics

Raymer F. Maguire Jr. Chair in Mathematics

\$3,900

Student Community in STEM

At a non-residential college like Valencia, there is a strong need to create a sense of belonging and help students with shared interests connect and network outside the classroom. Brian will work to create a sense of community among students interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers.

Rob McCaffrey, Professor, Graphic Design

Sue Luzadder Chair in Communications

\$3,800

Integrated Media Touchscreens

In spring 2015, a new special topics course was offered called "Integrated Media Production" in which students are required to write journalistic stories and produce photos, audio and videos to help support the written articles. Rob will use the endowed chair to purchase interactive touch screen monitors to place on stands around campus to display this journalistic work.

Robin Poole, Professor, Dental Hygiene
Chesley G. Magruder Foundation Chair in Allied Health
\$4,300

Allied Dental Faculty Leadership Development Program

Robin will use the endowed chair to attend the Allied Dental Faculty Leadership Development Program, a four-day conference on topics such as leadership theory, emotional intelligence, managing conflict, personality types and team building. Her goal is to glean useful leadership skills, which will be shared with other colleagues in her department and ultimately benefit student learning.

Laura Sessions, Professor, Chemistry, and Kris Dougherty, Professor, Biology
Lockheed Martin Chair in Science
\$4,200

Creating Genuine and Meaningful Science Internship Experiences at Lake Nona Campus

To prepare students for the challenges of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers, Laura and Kris will create meaningful laboratory experiences for students pursuing these careers that will train them in key lab skills and guide them in addressing a research question. Students will apply these skills in research internships at Valencia or with community partners and will attend a conference to meet scientists and learn about groundbreaking research.

Irina Struganova, Professor, Physics
Lester N. Mandell Chair in Natural and Physical Sciences
\$3,700

Advanced Undergraduate Physics Experiments as a Research Experience for Valencia Students

Irina will expand and enrich opportunities for undergraduate research for Valencia students through honors physics courses and independent study. She plans to continue to mentor students in undergraduate research projects and to add a modern version of the J.J. Thompson experiment on discovery of the electron to a number of classical physics experiments already available to students.

Elizabeth Wanielista, Professor, Office System Technology
John and Florence MacLeod Chair in Business
\$4,300

Medical Office Administration Program Update

The medical office is rapidly changing. Electronic health records, ICD-10 coding and scribes are being added to the medical environment. As a result, the Medical Office Administration Program must be reviewed for potential new courses. Elizabeth will visit and interview individuals in medical facilities to find out what new technology and duties have been added for a medical employee, and attend a conference and medical professional organizational meetings.

Distinguished Scholars – Category II

Colin Archibald, Professor, Computer Programming/Analysis
University Club of Orlando Chair in Advanced Computer Technology

\$5,500

Big Data

“Big Data” is a new form of data processing that allows us to see trends and correlations in very large sets of data. The volume and lack of structure of Big Data prevents the use of traditional software development tools. There is a shortage of talent in this area, and companies are limited by this. This project will send two faculty members for professional training in Big Data programming, leading to the creation of a new course in Big Data as part of the Associate in Science in Computer Programming.

Kenneth Bourgoin, Professor, Culinary Management
Hunton Brady Architects Endowed Chair in Hospitality Management

\$2,400

National Restaurant Association Food Show Chicago

This endowed chair will provide the opportunity to take three students to the National Restaurant Food Show in Chicago, Illinois. This is a rare discovery for a student to see the breadth and length of the restaurant/hotel industry on an international level.

Karen Cowden, Professor, Reading
William C. Demetree Jr. Foundation Chair in Education for Special Needs

\$4,400

“How to Build a Premier Learning Culture for Special Needs Students of the Orlando Community”

This endowed chair will provide funds for Karen to research and visit special needs institutions/colleges and capitalize on her expertise by focusing on the educational environment that best provides access and opportunities for special needs students.

Steven Cunningham, Professor, English for Academic Purposes
Tupperware Corporation Chair in Community Quality

\$4,100

Portuguese Language Through the Lens of a Visiting Brazilian Artist

Brazilian artist Clovis Junior will enrich the College and community through multimedia presentations including exhibitions of his paintings, ceramics and images of his art installations. He will interact with partners in the Brazilian community and students in Valencia’s art, humanities and foreign language programs who will act as local guides and volunteer translators.

Heith Hennel, Professor, Information Technology
Dr. P. Phillips Foundation Chair in Free Enterprise

\$6,200

The Lightboard Challenge

Imagine an invisible board between a teacher and his or her students. The professor teaches facing the students and everything he or she write hangs in the air magically inverted so it is readable from their perspective. Heith will build a Lightboard and challenge teachers to flip their best content.

Mayra Holzer, Professor, Speech
Raymer F. Maguire Jr. Endowed Chair in Communications

\$3,100

Professional Development in Cross Cultural Communication

As part of Maya’s sabbatical work in Argentina, she will obtain professional training in the field of cross-cultural communication from Iceberg Inteligencia Cultural, an international organization that promotes multicultural understanding and global competency for effective intercultural communication.

James Inglis, Professor, Hospitality/Tourism
Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association Chair in Hospitality Management

\$4,200

Student Experience - Attend International Hotel Show in NYC

This endowed chair will cover the costs for James to attend the International Hotel, Motel and Restaurant Show in New York. It will also pay the airfare for nine students to attend.

Julie Phelps, Professor, Mathematics
Raymer F. Maguire Jr. Teaching Chair
\$20,400

Student Created On-Demand Instruction for Front-Door Algebra Courses

The goal of this project is to provide students with the technology tools needed to create student-lead tutorials that support Valencia College algebra content. Engaging in this activity helps students see the relevance or importance of what they are learning.

Yasmeen Qadri, Professor, Education, and Anna Saintil, Professor, Student Life Skills
Dr. P. Phillips Foundation Chair in Education for the Physically Challenged
\$5,800

Preparing Effective Exceptional Education & Early Childhood Education Teachers

This endowed chair will enable our Teacher Education Program to focus on advancement in technology; build pathways to exceptional and early childhood education; form partnerships with the University of Central Florida, UCP of Central Florida and the Early Learning Coalition; develop a one-credit course in exceptional education required of new certification rules; and increase enrollment in our new Early Childhood Education Program beginning fall 2015.

Craig Rapp, Professor, Hospitality/Tourism
Central Florida Restaurant Association Chair in Restaurant and Food Service Management
\$3,400

Taking Students to 2016 National Restaurant Show in Chicago

Craig will take hospitality students to the National Restaurant Association Show in Chicago, Illinois, in May 2016. This is one of the largest and most impactful hospitality shows in the world, one that anyone entering the hospitality field can benefit from.

Andy Ray, Professor, Building Construction Technology
Hubbard Construction Company Chair in Technical and Engineering Programs
\$4,000

Study Abroad Scholarships

The Hubbard Construction Chair supports educational programs in building construction, drafting and design, land surveying and other technology areas. The endowed chair will provide scholarships to allow students in the above programs to participate in a study abroad trip to visit renewable energy facilities in Germany and Switzerland in May 2016.

Michael Robbins, Professor, English
Jessie and Eugene Drey Endowment of English-Speaking Union Chair in English and Humanities
\$3,000

Fostering Critical Thinking in Composition II

Michael will develop a model for Composition II using critical thinking and argumentation course work to assist in better teaching students how to foster more accepting attitudes of diverse views and perspectives.

Suzanne Salapa, Professor, Dance
Universal Orlando Chair in Arts and Entertainment
\$3,200

Nikolais/Louis Foundation for Dance Residency

This endowed chair will support a dance residency/master class program with the renowned artists of the Nikolais/Louis Foundation for Dance Residency in January and/or February 2016. Classes and rehearsals will take place over a five-to-seven day period and will introduce dancers and faculty to the innovative and diverse choreographic approach unique to Alwin Nikolais and Murray Louis' versatile and world renowned repertory.

Pamela Sandy, Professor, Dental Hygiene
Ira Vinson Henderson Chair in Nursing and, Allied Health
\$9,200

Revitalizing Curriculum and Calibrating Faculty in the Dental Hygiene Program

Pamela and other dental hygiene faculty will participate in the American Dental Education Association's Institute for Allied Dental Educators to acquire the skills of a master educator. The program, "Revitalizing Curriculum and Calibrating Faculty," will cover faculty calibration, creating a flipped classroom, designing hybrid courses, curriculum design and management and faculty motivation.

Melissa Schreiber, Professor, Biology
Chesley G. Magruder Foundation Chair in Health & Life Science
\$1,700

Study Abroad in Geneva and Paris

Students will travel to Geneva and Paris to learn about infectious disease, public health and epidemiology. In Geneva, students will spend time at the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum to understand their international humanitarian efforts. A visit to the headquarters of the World Health Organization in Geneva will provide the students an opportunity to learn about their authority of international public health within the United Nations system.

Finalists for The Valencia Foundation's Board of Chair for Interdisciplinary Studies presented their projects at the Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2015. The Board awarded the following three projects:

Steve Myers, Professor, Biology
Valencia Foundation Board Chair for Interdisciplinary Studies
\$5,000

Preserving Global Biodiversity in South Asia

South Asia is a biodiverse area with a large human population. The conservation and preservation of this unique area is of global importance. Students will travel to India and observe conservation efforts used by researchers at the Agumbe Rainforest Research Station in a field biology setting. They will have the opportunity to explore and understand the hurdles of conservation in a developing country, how those differ from regulations in the states and abroad and what effect such governance has on the ability to sustain and preserve these endemic species.

Richard Sansone, Professor, Portuguese, West
Valencia Foundation Board Chair for Interdisciplinary Studies
\$5,000

Service Learning Project Bridging Disciplines, Institutions and Cultures

This endowed chair enables future grant development/cultural exchange while implementing an intensive English/American culture course for teachers at the Federal University in Diamantina, Brazil. Strengthening relations, it leads to a proposal for 100,000 Strong in the Americas, President Obama's initiative to create greater academic synergy. Both institutions benefit through the professional development it provides and the grant proposal and student/faculty exchanges it facilitates.

Olga Vazquez, Professor, Biology
Valencia Foundation Board Chair for Interdisciplinary Studies
\$5,000

Health Academy

The Health Academy is designed as an educational awareness program to supplement the biology content of the fifth-grade science class to help students adopt healthy lifestyles and learn about STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers. Valencia student volunteers from science and education programs work as mentors to the fifth-grade students.